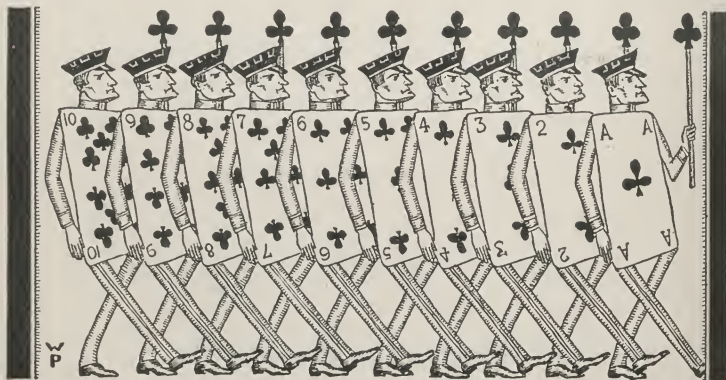
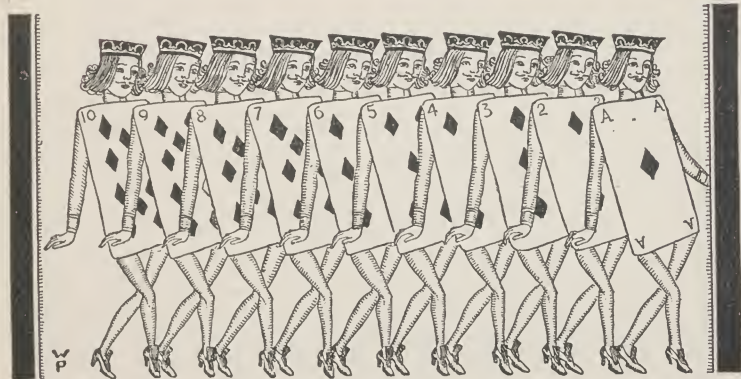


Five and Seven said nothing, but looked at Two. Two began, in a low voice, "Why, the fact is, you see, Miss, this here ought to have been a *red* rose-tree, and we put a white one in by mistake; and, if the Queen was to find it out, we should all have our heads cut off, you know. So you see, Miss, we're doing our best, afore she comes, to——" At this moment, Five, who had been anxiously looking across the garden, called out "The Queen! The Queen!", and the three gardeners instantly threw themselves flat upon their faces. There was a sound of many footsteps, and Alice looked round, eager to see the Queen.



First came ten soldiers carrying clubs: these were all shaped like the three gardeners, oblong and flat, with their hands and feet at the corners:

next the ten courtiers: these were ornamented all over with diamonds, and walked two and two, as



the soldiers did. After these came the royal children: there were ten of them, and the little dears came jumping merrily along, hand in hand, in



couples: they were all ornamented with hearts. Next came the guests, mostly Kings and Queens,

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